remember when I didn't know him. I think he must have seen Kate act as a child, and having given *her* " Alice "— he always gave his young friends " Alice " at once by way of establishing pleasant relations—lie made a progress as the years went on through the whole family. Finally he gave "Alice " to my children.

He was a splendid theatre-goer, and took the keenest interest in all the Lyceum productions, frequently writing to me to point out slips in the dramatist's logic which only he would ever have noticed! He did not even spare Shakespeare. I think he wrote these letters for fun, as some people make puzzles, anagrams, or Limericks!

" Now I'm going to put before you a ' Hero-ic * *puzzle* of mine, but please remember I do not ask for your solution of it, as you will persist in believing, if *I* ask your help in a Shake-speare difficulty, that I am only jesting r However, if yon won't attack it yourself, perhaps you would ask Mr. Irving some day how *he* explains it ?

" My difficulty is this :—* Why in the world did not Hero (or at any rate Beatrice oa her behalf) prove an * alibi * in answer to the charge ? It seems certain that she did *mi* sleep in her room that night; for how could Margaret venture to open the window and talk from it, with her mistress asleep in the room ? It would be sure to wake her. Besides Borachio says, after promising that Margaret shall, speak with him out of Hero's chamber window, ' I will so fashion the matter that Hero shall be absent.' *(How* he could possibly manage any such thing is another difficulty, but I pass over that.) Well then, granting that Hero slept in some other room that night, why didn't she say so ? When Clandio asks her : (- What man. was he talked with yesternight

out at your window betwixt twelve and one ? ' why doesn't she reply : ' I talked with no man at that hour, my lord. Nor was I in my chamber yesternight, but in another, far from it, remote/ And this she could, of course, prove by the evidence of the housemaids, who must have known that she had occupied another room that night.